

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 042428

70

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OIC-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /070 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAF:KLMARSHALL:JZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

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UNCLAS STATE 042428

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, OAS

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED TODAY, FEBRUARY 25, IN VIEW  
OF UPI SPANISH WIRE STORY 167 L, "APLAZO", FEBRUARY 24:

Q: IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TRYING TO GET THE OAS GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY PUT OFF?

A: WE ARE NOW IN THE PROCESS OF CONSULTING WITH THE GOVERN-  
MENTS OF OAS MEMBERS ON THE QUESTION OF A NEW DATE FOR THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THERE HAS AS YET BEEN NO OFFICIAL REQUEST  
TO THE OAS FOR POSTPONEMENT.

Q: WHAT SORT OF POSTPONEMENT DOES THE U.S. HAVE IN MIND?

A: THE ASSEMBLY IS NOW SCHEDULED TO OPEN HERE ON APRIL 16.  
WE HAVE BEEN THINKING IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE TO POSTPONE  
THAT FOR ROUGHLY THREE WEEKS. THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL HAS  
THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE THE CHANGE IF THE MEMBERS WISH.

Q: WHY DO WE WANT TO CHANGE THE DATE?

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PAGE 02 STATE 042428

A: THERE ARE A VARIETY OF REASONS. SOME VERY COMPLEX  
ITEMS ARE ON THE AGENDA AND THE GOVERNMENTS ALL NEED SOME  
TIME TO DIGEST THE VOLUMINOUS BACKGROUND, CONSULT WITH EACH  
OTHER, AND WORK ON POSITIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE SPECIAL

COMMITTEE ON REFORMING THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM ON  
FEBRUARY 20 JUST FINISHED TWO YEARS OF WORK AND IS MAKING  
A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ASSEMBLY. (FYI. OTHER  
TIME-CONSUMERS: A STUDY OF THE U.S. TRADE REFORM ACT AND  
AN URUGUAYAN-SPONSORED ITEM ON THE IMPACT OF INCREASED  
PRICES ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. END FYI.) THE U.S.  
GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MORE TIME TO CONSULT FULLY  
ON THESE AND OTHER ISSUES.

FINALLY, THE SECRETARY WILL BE MAINTAINING A VERY HEAVY  
SCHEDULE DURING THE COMING WEEKS, A PERIOD DURING WHICH  
HE HOPES TO MAKE A TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA. (END GUIDANCE.)

GUIDANCE DRAWN UPON TO ANSWER SEVERAL QUERIES FROM PRESS  
HERE. KISSINGER

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, US, XM, OAS  
**To:** ALL POSTS  
USCINCSO  
USUN NEW YORK  
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